Appointment of Ministry officials as Chairman and Managing Directors of Public Sector Enterprises

3552. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appointment of Ministry officials as Chairmen and Managing Directors of Public Sector Enterprises, with additional charge, are going on despite a Government directive to the contrary;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in Steel Authority of India and Airports Authority of India, Ministries, Officials have been given additional charge even though the Public Enterprises Selection Board had already interviewed the candidates and forwarded the recommendations to the concerned Ministries; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such appointments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Under Government guidelines, temporary vacancies of Chairmen and Managing Directors in Public Enterprises are to be filled by giving officiating charge to the senior-most Functional Dirctor on the Board of the Enterprise. However, in exceptional circumstances, in the exigencies of public service, such a charge of a temporary vacancy may be given to officers from the concerned Ministries/Departments, in relaxation of the normal guidelines.

In the Steel Authority of India Limited, the additional charge of the post of Chairman was entrusted to an officer of the Ministry of Steel for a short period of about one month, pending the appointment of a regular Chairman.

In the Airports Authority of India, the additional charge of the post of Chairman has been entrusted to a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation. In the absence of the vigilance clearance in re-pect of one of the candidates on the panel recommended by the PESB, a final decision for appointment of a regular Chairman has not been possible.

BACK-LOG of Reserved Posts in the Ministry of personnel ETC

3553. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise break-up of posts reserved for SCs and STs lying vacant in various departments under the Ministry of personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, till date;

(b) the specific reasons therefor;

(c) whether the employees of various other categories have also been promoted in addition to the new recruitments made on some posts during the last three years, till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof, yearwise/ post-wise; and

(e) the aciton being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to clear the backlog of reserved posts in various categories and for promoting the SCs and STs employees, in accordance with the reservation rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-! TRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) As per available information, the break-up of backlog of reserved vacancies as onl.8.96 was as given below:—

	Classification of posts			
	'A'	'B'	'C'	'D'
Scheduled Castes	1	10	28	2
Scheduled Tribes	—	7	32	2
Total:,	1	17	60	4

(b) The vacancies are generally due to non availability of eligible/suitable SC/ ST candidate.

(c) and (d) The employee^ in the various offices under the Ministry are being given promotion keeping in view reservation quota for different categories subject to their being eligible for promotion. The details of promotions made during the year 1993, 1994 and 1995 are as given below:—

Year	Promotions made		
	General	SC	ST
1993	320	94	17
1994	314	69	24
1995	159	50	15
Total:	793	213	56

(e) Special recruitment drives were also launched, from time to time to fill up the backlog of reserved vacancies in accordance with the prescribed procedure and the provisions of rules.

Prior Permission for Inquiry against Ministers

3554. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pelased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Office had told the CBI to take prior permission of the Prime Minister before initiating inquiry against Ministers and Ex-Ministers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, through such instructions, Government are trying to curb the role of CBI in investigating corruption at the top levels; and

(d) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government to impart greater autonomy to CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Time-Frame for Disposal of Appeals by Employees

3555. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any prescribed time-frame for disposal of appeals and reviews preferred by employees against penalties imposed upon them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Though no time limit has been prescribed in the rules for disposal of appeals and reviews preferred by the employees against penalities imposed on them yet it is expected from the competent authorities that the appeals and reviews preferred by the employees should be considered expeditiously and a decision taken within a reasonable period of time.